

Message Text

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SUBJECT: OECD ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE: MEETING OF STEERING
GROUP FOR CONFERENCE ON "BETTER TOWNS WITH LESS TRAFFIC"

REF: STATE 126016

1. STEERING GROUP MET JUNE 2 TO CONSIDER FOLLOW-UP
PROPOSALS OUTLINED IN PART III OF ENV(75)21. MISSION
COVERED MEETING AS REQUESTED. US COMMENTS PER REFTEL
MUCH APPRECIATED BY GROUP AND SECRETARIAT.

2. SECRETARIAT PRESENTED ELABORATION OF FOLLOW-UP
PROPOSAL OUTLINED IN ENV(75)21. FULL TEXT WILL BE AIR-
POUCHED AS SOON AS AVAILABLE. FOLLOWS A SUMMARY OF
ESSENTIALS FOR PURPOSE OF INTER-AGENCY BRIEFING PRIOR TO
JUNE 11-13 ENVCOM MEETING.

3. BEGIN SUMMARY. AT THE CONFERENCE "BETTER TOWNS
WITH LESS TRAFFIC", EXAMPLES WERE PRESENTED OF CITIES
WHICH HAVE INTRODUCED SCHEMES OF TRAFFIC LIMITATION AND
PUBLIC TRANSPORT IMPROVEMENT TO ACHIEVE A BETTER EN-
VIRONMENT. THE PROJECT DESCRIBED BELOW WOULD EXAMINE
METHODS USED TO EVALUATE AND MONITOR SCHEMES OF THIS
KIND AND WOULD CONSIDER EFFECTIVENESS BOTH OF EVALUATION
METHODS AND OF SCHEMES THEMSELVES. IT IS RECOMMENDED
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THAT THIS PROJECT SHOULD NOT NECESSARILY BE RESTRICTED

TO LOW COST SCHEMES. IN CONDUCTING THIS PROJECT THE ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE SHOULD SECURE THE SUPPORT AND COOPERATION OF OTHER INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, PARTICULARLY THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE, THE EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES, THE UNITED NATIONS ECONOMIC COMMISSION FOR EUROPE, THE EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF THE MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT AND THE WORLD BANK.

4. MAIN STAGES OF THE PROJECT:

(A) EVALUATION METHODS

THE FIRST STAGE WOULD BE TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION ABOUT EVALUATION METHODS USED IN VARIOUS CITIES, POSSIBLY BY MEANS OF A MEETING OF EXPERTS AT WHICH THE TECHNIQUES WOULD BE DRAWN TOGETHER INTO A DRAFT REPORT AS BASIS FOR DISCUSSION AT THE FIRST MEETING OF A WORKING GROUP OF THE SECTOR GROUP ON THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT.

(B) CASE STUDIES

THE WORKING GROUP WOULD SELECT CITIES FOR CASE STUDIES, AND SET OUT GUIDELINES FOR REPORTS THAT SHOULD EXAMINE AND ASSESS METHODS OF EVALUATION IN USE IN THE CITIES AND SHOW EFFECTS OF THE POLICIES. WHERE GAPS EXIST ATTEMPTS SHOULD BE MADE TO OBTAIN THE RELEVANT INFORMATION. ON BASIS OF THESE REPORTS, THE WORKING GROUP WOULD REPORT ON THE METHODOLOGIES AND TECHNIQUES EXAMINED.

(C) POLICY OPTIONS

ON THE BASIS OF THE ABOVE, THE GROUP WOULD PREPARE A DISCUSSION PAPER PRESENTING POLICY OPTIONS AND ASSESSING THE FEASIBILITY AND EFFECTIVENESS OF THESE OPTIONS IN DIFFERENT CIRCUMSTANCES.

(D) REPORT ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OECD COUNCIL RECOMMENDATION

THE RESULTS OF THE FIRST TWO STAGES, TOGETHER WITH REPORTS FROM MEMBER COUNTRIES ON NATIONAL POLICY TRENDS, NEW LAWS AND REGULATIONS, WOULD FORM THE BASIS OF A REPORT TO BE SUBMITTED TO THE COUNCIL IN ACCORDANCE WITH ITS RECOMMENDATION C(74)218. THIS COULD BE SUPPLEMENTED BY A FOLLOW-UP SURVEY SIMILAR TO THAT MADE IN 1974 IN PREPARATION OF THE OECD CONFERENCE "BETTER

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TOWNS WITH LESS TRAFFIC".

(E) POSSIBLE FUTURE CONFERENCE

IT IS SUGGESTED THAT THERE MIGHT BE A FOLLOW-UP CONFERENCE TO BE SCHEDULED FOR 1977 OR 1978 TO REVIEW CASE STUDIES AND EXPERIENCE. END SUMMARY.

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